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APR 0 8 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e That Tre Application of:

Amir M. Saffarian

Serial No.:

08/828,022

Filing Date:

March 27, 1997

Group Art Unit:

2876

Examiner:

Jamara A. Franklin

Title:

AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CHECK AMOUNT

ENCODING AT A POINT-OF-SALE

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Arlington, VA 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 8, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments and remarks. Please amend the Application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made. Please refer to the attached sheets showing a marked up version of the amendments to the claims.

The order A

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